

The invisible army....

The land attack is mounted. The troops are camouflaged with soil and have dirt all over their faces. Their trenches run deep and go subterranean. They build ladders, earthen tunnels, and tubes to reach high above the ground.

Another brigade begins aerial attacks. They fly en masse and literally swarm in on buildings. Even the best defenses are vulnerable to the air-to-land invasions.

This is the Southern California War. The enemies are the subterranean and dry-wood termites. The battleground is your home. Once the invasion has begun, the heroes are the pest control companies. Most homes today are inspected for termites and other wood-destroying organisms during the escrow process. It is not a state law that a home must be inspected; however, most lenders require the inspection. The loan company wants to know that their collateral for the loan is sound and free of termites.

Choosing a pest control company is best accomplished by reputation and referral. Once a company is selected, then the homeowner is best advised to take an hour off work and accompany the inspector. By being present for the inspection, a reputable inspector will be able to show you areas of concern, ask you to make an area more accessible, and recommend specific remedies for the infestations. The inspector will ex-



EAST COUNTY REAL ESTATE

BY JEFF CAMPBELL

plain to you what areas you can repair yourself, the warranty limits on owner repairs, and the best way to eradicate termites, (freezing, heat, electrocution, gas, and chemical methods.)

The inspector also looks for other wood-destroying organisms besides termites. You will receive a report on evidence of wood, fungus, dry rot, carpenter ants, wood beetles and active water leaks as seen during the inspection. Perhaps a better name for the inspection would be the "anything-that-will-damage-your-wood-inspection."

Typically, the search for infected wood is broken down to active infestation (section one) and that which could lead to active infestation (section two). Examples of section two findings are cellulose debris under a raised foundation house (such as stacked newspapers and cardboard boxes), soil sloping toward the home causing water to drain toward the foundation, and stacked firewood against the house. The written report you receive indicates both sectional findings.

Remember to ask a friend and your Realtor for a recommendation of a reputable pest control company. Although the inspector can't keep your teenagers from eating you out of house and home, they can keep the termites from doing the same.

Jeff Campbell is a full-time Realtor with Century 21 All Service Realtors in East County and can be reached at 800-782-5510 and 619-445-3322.

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ing terrific already."

Fishing is a great family sport, one of the reasons Henson and his family enjoy it. "It's wonderful to take your family on a weekend campout and enjoy the fresh air, quality time together and catching fish." When not fishing with their kids, Jamie, 11, and Justin 15, Henson and wife Pam are giving seminars, doing radio talk shows about the sport or competing in tournaments.

Henson suggests that, if families are looking for a sport to introduce their children to, fishing is a good one. A beginner can walk into the store and leave ready to fish for about \$75 excluding licenses and permits.

Angler's Edge accepts major credit cards, has gift certificates, and maintains a customer mailing list for

notification of sales and seminars offered. It's open Monday, Thursday and Friday, 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Angler's Edge is located at 10137 Maine Ave., Lakeside, 938-0020.

Free admission offered at state parks

SACRAMENTO — Coupons are available at local libraries for free day use visits to state parks in observance of California State Parks Month throughout most of May. For more information, one may call (800) 777-0369.

Wellness Community offers cancer seminar

LA MESA — Learn about what research tells us about how emotional support makes a difference in quality of life and how it may affect the outcome of a cancer diagnosis. Thursday, May 6, 5-7 p.m. at the Grossmont Cancer Center. For more information, one may call 467-1065.

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A good catch for Lakeside

By Diana Saenger

What kind of business would be open at five o'clock in the morning? Anyone up for fishing? Angler's Edge, a new Lakeside bait and tackle store that opened in February has everything a fisherman could possibly want plus an experienced sales team that know their product. "My dad started me fishing up in the Sierras when I was a boy," said store manager Larry Henson. "I've been fishing lakes and streams ever since."

Henson and his wife Pam, who also works at the store, used to operate their own bait and tackle store and are both bass tournament fishermen that hold a high standing in the San Diego Region Team Tournament events. Other employees at Angler's Edge, Don Asper, Price Ruhl, Adam Huber and Leonard Mallott all have an equal knowledge of the fishing industry.

"All of us have fished most lakes and regions around the country or know where to find out any information a customer wants," Henson said. "We can help with basics like how to tie a knot or what kind of equipment someone might want depending on where they want to fish." The staff boasts knowledge of ocean and bay fishing, too.

Angler's Edge looks like something out of *Sportsmen Digest*. The store is huge, modern and full of accessories. "People are a little surprised when they walk in that the paint isn't peeling off the walls," remarked Henson. "We're proud of the store and feel we have the best products and services in the country."



Photos by Diana Saenger
Larry Henson, Price Ruhl, and Don Asper, are salesmen at Angler's Edge who know their stuff when it comes to fishing.

Shelves are lined with items such as apparel, boots, knives, sinkers, hooks of all sizes and colors, maps, nets, and convenient and organized pull-out trays full of lures and supplies. Reels, ranging from \$9.99 to \$279, include the brands Newell, Penn, Shimano, Calcutta, Sienna and Diawa. Poles offer brands from Loomis Rods, Castaway, Falcon, Calstar, Shimano and Fenwick and range from \$14.99 to \$380.

A popular feature in the store is the fresh and salt-water live bait tanks that hold shiners, water dogs, crayfish and mealworms. "We have an apparatus that shoots oxygen into the bait bags that keeps the bait fresher," said Henson.

Doug Drover of Drover's Alpine Fisheries, a wholesale supplier and owner of the Angler's Edge, decided to open the Lakeside store when another bait shop closed their doors. "When the other store went bankrupt it left a void in the East County bait supply and also a deficit in our business since we supply wholesale to retail outlets," Drover said. "Lakeside is a great location and the business is do-

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TopMark's Domaine books 13 reservation

EL CAJON — A brisk kickoff of preview sales was registered at Domaine, TopMark's latest community at Steele Canyon Country Club in East County, with some 200 visitors and 13 sales reservations the first weekend. Phase one comprises only 14 homes.

"With the current dearth of upscale new communities in East County, prospective buyers were enthusiastic about both the plans and location of Domaine," said Pat McCordle, president of TopMarks Communities. "With only 31 homes planned, we anticipate a complete sellout when we release our second and final phase in late summer."

Priced \$430,000 to \$490,000, Domaine offers four new home plans by Gold Nugget Award-winning Case Group Architects, with 3,065 to 3,398 square feet on one and two levels. There are three and four bedrooms (with office/den options), 2 and 3 and one half baths, family centers, nooks, formal

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New facility for Alpine Community Center

ALPINE—The Alpine Community Center has completed construction of a new \$1.9 million, 11,700 square foot facility located at 1830 Alpine Boulevard.

Funding for the project came from a variety of fund-raising efforts by community volunteers. The town of only 15,000 has raised more than \$1 million over the past several years (one hundred and thirty-two thousand of that came from grants). The remainder came from a \$1.5 million loan from the USDA Rural Development Program.

"As the only nonprofit community center in the county that operates without benefit of property tax dollars, the Alpine Community Center depends greatly on community support," said Susan Hobbs, President of the Alpine Community Center Board of Directors. "The expanded facility will allow us to better serve the needs of this community." The facility features a "great room" which can be used as a conference facility and a venue for special

events and weddings. The building also has a commercial kitchen and administrative offices. There is also 2,700 square feet of unfinished basement space that will be converted into a teen center and park concession space, as funding allows.

The project architect was Architects Mosher/Drew/Watson/Ferguson and the construction project manager was Kenai Construction Company. T.B. Pennick & Sons was the general contractor.

The Alpine Community Center serves the East County with child care programs for preschool and school age children, summer teen programs, a daily senior citizen lunch program, community education and recreation, tutoring and intergenerational programs for children and seniors. The Center also has a public park facility used for community concerts and other functions.

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dining rooms and deluxe master suites with retreats.

Three-car garages, some in separated format, have premium sectional steel roll-up doors.

Phase-one homes offer fall occupancy and there is conventional financing at continuing low levels. Homeowners will pay no Mello-Roos taxes.

Gated-fronted Domaine lies in the midst of the championship 27-hole Steele Canyon Golf Course, one of the county's most challenging and spectacular layouts. The course is augmented by the blue-ribbon facilities of Steele Canyon Country Club, with its striking clubhouse, fine restaurant and lounge, excellent pro shop and other amenities.

In addition, TopMark is constructing along with the initial phase at Domaine, a private recreational clubhouse for the use of Steel Canyon residents, including tennis courts, a resort-scaled pool, sun deck and spa.

There's also the nearby excitement and community resources of the Rancho San Diego and Jamul areas, a superb East County

environment for family living.

While enjoying a low-density, semirural ambiance and breathtaking foothill views, the luxurious Steele Canyon enclave remains within 25 minutes commute time to downtown San Diego and Mission Valley.

Backed by the seasoned expertise and corporate strength of Top Mark Communities LLC, Domaine introduces a collection of distinctive residences in a nicely landscaped pastoral valley east of Mt. Helix. home sites are a minimum 13,000 square feet.

Features to conserve water and energy and promote home safety are included in the homes. These include low-flow toilets and shower heads, setback thermostats, pre-plumbing for circulating hot water, finished walls and ceilings in garages, double-layer roof felt, overhead copper plumbing, security-system pre-wiring, post-tension foundation systems and automatic garage-door openers for double doors.

Steele Canyon is near schools for all ages, including Valhalla High, ballfields, parks and picnic areas, fashionable shopping and restaurants, houses of worship, modern medical facilities and full civic services.

Visitors to Domaine could take Jamacha Road north, from Highway 94, head right on Willow Glen Road, right on Steele Canyon Road, left on Jamul Drive, left on Fowler Canyon Road, and follow the sign to the TopMark presales office. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Monday. For more information, one may call 579-7122.

Poppy campaign benefits veterans

SANTEE — Members of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9327 and its ladies' auxiliary will be distribute Buddy Poppies at various locations throughout Santee from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 15 and again on May 16. Proceeds benefit disabled and needy veterans and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans in the community.

For more information, one may call 562-4022.

Shelter offers 'two fur one' cat adoptions

SAN DIEGO — May is the beginning of kitten season, and each year animal shelters throughout San Diego County are impacted by litters of kittens.

In an effort to increase adult cat adoptions, the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA will offer a Two-Fur-One promotion on adult cat adoptions. From May 1 through May 16, adopters will be able to adopt two adult cats, six months or older, for the regular one-cat adoption price of \$75.

For more details on the Two-Fur-One cat adoption promotion, visit the San Diego Humane Society and S.P.C.A. at 887 Sherman Street, during business hours or one may call 299-7012.